

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for using a router as a context-sensitive processing array wherein a header of a data packet is encoded with information descriptive of data contained in a payload of the data packet and the data packet is encapsulated into another packet for transportation across a network to an ingress point of the context-sensitive processing array, the method comprising:

un-encapsulating the data packet and placing the data packet onto a broadcast medium connected to one or more routers such that ~~one or more~~ the routers can receive the data packet substantially simultaneously;

programming at least one router to select data packets from the broadcast medium based on selection criteria that correspond to the encoded information in the packet header; and

selecting the encoded packets based on the encoded information in the header to organize the encoded information into a predetermined hierarchy of information based on the selection criteria, the resulting organization corresponding to one or more of the following: taxonomic classification, geographic location information, identity of the source of origin of a goods in commerce, type of goods or services offered in commerce, and brand name for a goods or services offered in commerce.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein encoding the data packet header comprises encoding the descriptive information into a source field or a destination field, or both, of the header.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the descriptive information comprises a pointer to the location of a source of dynamic pricing information.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the dynamic pricing information comprises bid or ask pricing data for goods or services available in commerce.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the encoded header is encoded according to a format defined for an Internet Protocol (IP) header field.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the descriptive information conforms to a classification scheme for classifying data objects.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the classification scheme classifies dynamic pricing information.
8. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the classification scheme corresponds to a hierarchy of goods or services available in commerce.
9. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the hierarchy of goods or services includes a plurality of levels including a category level, a topic level and a sub-topic level.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the descriptive information is based on a hierarchical classification of bid or ask information.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein encoding the data packet header comprises encoding taxonomic information into a source field or a destination field, or both, of the header.
12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the encoded taxonomic information comprises meta-data defining one or more parameters associated with the payload.
13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the one or more parameters relate to geography, time and pricing.
14. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the encoded taxonomic information comprises meta-data describing goods or services, pricing for goods or services, and/or contact information relating to goods or services.
15. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein the contact information relating to goods or services comprises a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) at which the goods or services may be bought, sold and/or investigated.
16. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the descriptive information relates to goods or services controlled by an electronic market or electronic auction.
17. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein programming a router comprises providing the router with mask values for selectively identifying associated encoded data packer header values.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising sorting the data packets into channels according to their respective encoded headers.

19. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising broadcasting to a user of a computer network a channel of data packets organized into the predetermined hierarchy.

20. (Cancelled).

21. (Cancelled).

22. (Cancelled).

23. (Cancelled).

24. (Cancelled).

25. (Cancelled).

26. (Cancelled).

27. (Cancelled).

28. (Cancelled).

29. (Cancelled).

30. (Cancelled).

31. (Cancelled).

32. (Cancelled).

33. (Cancelled).